

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) An oligonucleotide comprising:



wherein  $\text{X}_1$  is any nucleotide,  $\text{X}_2$  is A, T, or C when  $\text{X}_1$  is C or A,  $\text{X}_2$  is A or G when  $\text{X}_1$  is T,  $\text{X}_2$  is any nucleotide when  $\text{X}_1$  is G,  $\text{N}_1$  is 2-95 nucleotides, wherein the CG dinucleotide is an unmethylated CG dinucleotide, wherein 5' designates the 5' end of the oligonucleotide and 3' designates the 3' end of the oligonucleotide, and wherein  $\text{N}_1$  does not include an unmethylated CG motif, wherein the oligonucleotide is 13-100 nucleotides in length.

2-5. (Canceled).

6. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide includes at least 1 modified internucleotide linkage.

7. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide includes at least 50% modified internucleotide linkage.

8. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein all internucleotide linkages of the oligonucleotide are modified.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Original) The oligonucleotide of claim 6, wherein the stabilized internucleotide linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

11-12. (Canceled).

13. (Withdrawn) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein  $\text{N}_1$  is  $\text{N}_2\text{N}_3$  and wherein  $\text{N}_2$  is 8-94 nucleotides and  $\text{N}_3$  is 2-5 pyrimidines.

14. (Withdrawn) The oligonucleotide of claim 13, wherein  $N_3$  is TTTT.
15. (Withdrawn) The oligonucleotide of claim 13, wherein  $N_3$  is TT.
16. (Withdrawn) The oligonucleotide of claim 13, wherein  $N_2$  is 8-40 nucleotides.
17. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein  $N_1$  is at least 50% pyrimidine.
18. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein  $N_1$  is at least 80% pyrimidine.
19. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein  $N_1$  is free of Poly-A and Poly-G sequences.
20. (Withdrawn) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein  $N_1$  is  $TN_2$  and wherein  $N_2$  is 8-94 nucleotides.
- 21-22. (Canceled).
23. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide has a 3'-3' linkage with one or two accessible 5' ends.
24. (Original) The oligonucleotide of claim 23, wherein the oligonucleotide has two accessible 5' ends, each of which are 5'TCG.
- 25-90. (Canceled).